

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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**RESOLUTION ON GAY AND LESBIAN MATERIALS**

- WHEREAS,** *The voters of Springfield, Oregon on May 29, 1992 passed a city charter amendment prohibiting the use of public funds or property for promoting, encouraging, or facilitating homosexuality; and*
- WHEREAS,** *This law and laws like it may be used to remove gay and lesbian materials from publicly-supported libraries and to prevent the acquisition of neutral or positive library materials about homosexuality; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Oregon Citizens Alliance has succeeded in placing on the Oregon statewide ballot in November 1992, an initiative which would amend the state constitution to prohibit the use of public funds or property to promote, encourage, or facilitate homosexuality, and which would institutionalize anti-gay discrimination in local and state government throughout Oregon; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The American Library Association in its Library Bill of Rights and its Freedom to Read Statement strongly opposes all efforts at censorship in libraries, and promotes diversity in library collections and the inclusion of materials representing the viewpoints of all segments of the community; therefore, be it*
- RESOLVED,** *That the American Library Association condemns any attempts to censor or exclude any viewpoint on homosexuality from libraries; and, be it further*
- RESOLVED,** *That the American Library Association urges the Oregon Library Association and all librarians to publicly and energetically oppose the implementation of censorship in Springfield, Oregon; the passage of the anti-gay state initiative in Oregon; and any other similar initiatives in other local or state jurisdictions; and, be it further*
- RESOLVED,** *That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Springfield, Oregon City Council and Mayor, Public Library and Chamber of Commerce; the Oregon Library Association, the Oregon State Library, OUTPAC (the statewide anti-initiative political action committee), the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the library press, the major gay and lesbian press, and the major news media in Oregon.*



**ADOPTED BY THE  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA)  
July 1, 1992**

*Peggy Sullivan*

**Peggy Sullivan  
Secretary to ALA Council**

**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Annual Conference**  
**June, 1992**

freedom of information and expression in the Middle East and that the International Relations Committee (IRC) be asked to develop strategies towards these ends; and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Israeli government, U.S. State Department, the United Nations, the Article 19 organization, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

**RESOLUTION ON GAY AND LESBIAN MATERIALS (CD#61).** Council then

**VOTED,** That the American Library Association condemns any attempts to censor or exclude any viewpoint on homosexuality from libraries; and, that the American Library Association urges the Oregon Library Association and all librarians to publicly and energetically oppose the implementation of censorship in Springfield, Oregon; the passage of the anti-gay state initiative in Oregon; and any other similar initiatives in other local or state jurisdictions; and, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Springfield, Oregon City Council and Mayor, Public Library and Chamber of Commerce; the Oregon Library Association, the Oregon State Library, OUTPAC (the statewide anti-initiative political action committee), the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the library press, the major gay and lesbian press, and the major news media in Oregon.

**MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTIONS.** Councilor Norman Horrocks noted that there seemed to be some confusion about the handling of membership resolutions. He read the constitutional section addressing this issue and spoke on the current practice which requires that only membership resolutions with policy implications must come to Council. He recommended that the issue of how membership resolutions come to Council be reviewed by the newly established committee outlined in CD#41.

On motion by Councilor Horrocks and Treasurer Carla Stoffle, Council

**VOTED,** That the newly established committee in CD#41 review the handling of membership resolutions by Council.

**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
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**ALA MEMBERSHIP MEETING II**  
**Wednesday, July 1, 1992, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon**  
**Moscone Convention Center, Gateway Ballroom**

**TRIBUTES AND MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS (Exhibits 28A-28N). The following Memorials were adopted:**

- (M-11) John Donovan**
- (M-12) Eve Merriam, Walt Morey, Alvin Schwartz, and Virginia Sorensen**
- (M-13) Isaac Asimov**
- (M-14) Ronald C. Bohley**

**The following Tributes were adopted:**

- (T-2) Mary Jo Godwin**
- (T-3) Will Manley**
- (T-4) George Cunningham**
- (T-5) Rebecca T. Bingham upon her retirement**
- (T-6) The Colorado Library Association on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary**
- (T-7) Reverend Jesse Jackson**
- (T-8) Richard M. Dougherty**
- (T-9) Wil J. & Rachael Blechman and Kiwanis International**
- (T-10) Bessie Moore**
- (T-11) Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**

**RESOLUTION ON GAY AND LESBIAN MATERIALS (MD#10, Exhibit 26G).** On motion by members Adam L. Schiff and Roland C. Hansen, it was

**VOTED,** That the American Library Association condemns any attempts to censor or exclude any viewpoint on homosexuality from libraries; and that the American Library Association and all librarians publicly and energetically oppose the implementation of censorship in Springfield, Oregon; the passage of the anti-gay state initiative in Oregon; and any other similar initiatives in other local and state jurisdictions; and that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Springfield, Oregon, City Council and mayor, public library and Chamber of Commerce; the Oregon Library Association, the Oregon State Library, OUTPAC (the statewide anti-initiative political action committee), the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the library press, and the major gay and lesbian press.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT.** Patricia Glass Schuman began by stating that her year as the ALA President had been the "busiest, most thrilling, hair-raising, fascinating, and exhausting" year of her life. She then highlighted activities that occurred during her presidential year.

On motion by ALA Member E.J. Josey, it was

**VOTED,** That this body go on record to express its appreciation to President Patricia Glass Schuman for the sterling leadership that she has given to make libraries and librarianship more visible in our land.

**STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION REPORT.** Peggy Sullivan, Executive Director, reported that membership now stands at 55,190, which is up by 2,270 over the previous year. The largest increases were in regular (960) and student (793) memberships.

Sullivan reported that conference registration as of Tuesday, June 30 was 19,261 compared to the 17,764 registrants at last year's conference. Paid attendance was reported at 13,063 which is the highest ever. In speaking about the growth, both in the membership and the scope of the Association, Sullivan pointed out that Pat Schuman's year as president had identified ALA's commitment not only to the profession but to direct outreach to the public at large.